



2026 key stage 1 and key stage 2 technical pre-test trial information

| Key Stage & Subject | Trial information |
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| Key Stage 1 – Mathematics | <p>Each pupil will take one complete test, comprising one arithmetic paper and one mathematical reasoning paper.</p> <p>The arithmetic paper will take approximately 20 minutes, and the reasoning paper will take approximately 35 minutes.</p> <p>Pupils should be given a reasonable break between each paper.</p> |
| Key stage 1 administration time | <p>The administration times given above are a guide.</p> <p>If the majority of pupils are still working at the end of the test time, along with the administrator, please use your judgement to decide if you will allow the pupils to continue or not. The test should only continue for a few minutes past the given administration time.</p> <p>Administration arrangements are more flexible for KS1 so the tests can be administered to smaller groups of pupils and can be stopped if the pupils need a break and then resumed so pupils still have the appropriate length of time.</p> <p>KS1 trial tests should be administered by a member of school staff and supported by the trained administrator unless specifically requested.</p> |
| Key Stage 2 – English reading, main and anchor | <p>For the main trial, each pupil will sit two complete tests, each comprising of a reading prompt and answer booklet.</p> <p>Both papers will last 60 minutes each.</p> <p>Pupils should be given a reasonable break in between each test.</p> <p>STA select a small portion of schools that will sit the anchor-only combination. For this, each pupil will only need to sit one complete test lasting 60 minutes. You will be told in advance of administration if this is relevant for your school.</p> |
| Key Stage 2 – English grammar, punctuation, and | <p>Each pupil will sit two complete tests, each made up of a question booklet and a spelling booklet.</p> <p>Each paper will last 60 minutes.</p> |

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| spelling, main and anchor | Pupils should be given a reasonable break between each paper. STA select a small portion of schools that will sit the anchor-only combination. For this, each pupil will only need to sit one complete test, consisting of a question booklet and a spelling booklet, lasting 60 minutes. You will be told in advance of administration if this is relevant for your school. |
| Key Stage 2 – Mathematics, main and anchor | Each pupil will sit one complete test, made up of three papers. Paper 1 (arithmetic) must be completed first; this paper will take 30 minutes. Paper 2 and 3 (reasoning) will follow and will take 40 minutes each. Pupils should be given a reasonable break between each paper. |
| All key stage 2 administration time | The administration times provided should not be changed for most pupils. Additional time can be added for pupils with special educational needs who would usually receive this in the live national curriculum tests. The NFER administrator will lead the administration with support of a member of school staff. |

The team at NFER are here to help you at any time.

Telephone: 01753 637136 **Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm and during test administration window (Monday 13 April to Friday 24 April), 8am to 5.30pm**

Email: TPTtrials@nfer.ac.uk